

BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON.



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1939

BY

ROBERT W. MACPHERSON,

M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.



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# CONTENTS.

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	<i>Page</i>
STAFF .....	3
STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA Population; Birth Rate; Death Rate; Unemployment Figures; Deaths in Age Groups; Causes of Death over 65 years of age.	6—9
GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA. Laboratory Work .....	9—10
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE ..... Consultant Services; Medical Examina- tion of Expectant Women; Dental Treat- ment; Institutional Treatment; Health Visitors; Notification of Births Act, 1907; Orthopaedic Treatment.	10—15
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA ..... Water Supply; Public Cleansing.	15—18
HOUSING AND OVERCROWDING .....	18—20
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD ..... Milk Supply.	20—23
PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES ..... Diseases; Ellerbeck Hospital; Cancer; Tuberculosis; Sanatorium Treatment.	23—28
FACTORIES ACT .....	29
SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA ..... Inspections; Works Executed; Factories, Shops; Dairies and Cowsheds; Food Inspection; Verminous Premises.	30—35



## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

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ROBERT W. MACPHERSON.	Medical Officer of Health.
M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.	School Medical Officer
WILLIAM EADIE, M.D. ...	Deputy Medical Officer of Health. (part-time).
§*RICHARD JAMES ... ..	Chief Sanitary Inspector. Housing and Meat Inspector.
§*KENNETH KETLEY ... ..	Assistant Sanitary Inspector. (Resigned 13th July, 1939).
§*STANLEY M. CARRUTHERS ...	Assistant Sanitary Inspector. (Appointed 1st August, 1939).
†PERCY L. LYNN ... ..	Assistant Sanitary Inspector. (part-time).
JOHN ASKEW ... ..	Dental Officer—Maternity and Child Welfare (part-time).
NURSE PRESCOTT ... ..	Health Visitor.
NURSE MORGAN ... ..	Health Visitor.
NURSE PURDY ... ..	Municipal Midwife.
MRS. CAVE ... ..	Municipal Midwife.
MRS. WILLIAMS ... ..	Municipal Midwife.
NURSE RICHMOND ... ..	Municipal Midwife.
MISS ROBNETT ... ..	Matron—Ellerbeck Hospital.
GEORGE ELLIOTT ... ..	Chief Clerk. (On Active Service since September, 1939).
DONALD MUIR ... ..	Junior Clerk.
MISS M. PARKER ... ..	Clerk—Maternity & Child Welfare.
MISS M. NICHOLSON ... ..	Temporary Clerk. (Appointed 5th October, 1939).

---

DR. J. A. ROSS ... .. Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon,  
Carlisle, for Maternity and Child  
Welfare.

DR. ANTHONY W. PURDIE... Consulting Gynaecologist, Carlisle,  
for Maternity and Child Welfare.  
(Resigned 11th May, 1940).

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\* Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

§ Certificate of Meat and Other Foods (R.S.I.)

† Certificate of R.S.I.

# PUBLIC HEALTH AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

1939-40.

---

ALDERMAN L. CASSON (Chairman).  
THE MAYOR (Councillor S. Walker).  
COUNCILLOR MRS. CAIN.

,,	CATTRELL.
,,	CLUCAS.
,,	DEANS.
,,	Goss.
,,	HUNTER.
,,	NEEDHAM.
,,	NILSSON.
,,	O'HAGAN.
,,	MRS. SMITH.

MRS. C. A. VALENTINE	}	<i>Co-opted Members Maternity and Child Welfare.</i>
MRS. HEYWOOD		
MRS. JOHNSTONE		

MRS. E. APPLEBY, C.C.	}	<i>Co-opted Members from Cumberland County Council.</i>
MR. J. J. ADAMS, J.P., C.A.		

MR. THOMAS JACKSON, *Town Clerk.*

TOWN HALL,  
WORKINGTON,  
October, 1940.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND MATERNITY AND  
CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1939.

The date of submission of my Report is much later than usual, but owing to war conditions there has been delay in receiving the Registrar General's Statistics.

Circular 2067 from the Ministry of Health directs that Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health should be considerably curtailed—mainly due to the increased pressure of work in Public Health Departments and the need for strict economy in paper. The Report therefore has, to a great extent, been reduced, and is confined to essential matters such as Maternity and Child Welfare, Infectious Diseases, General Sanitation and the Inspection of Food.

I am pleased to be able to state that the Vital Statistics are very satisfactory, that there has been no epidemic calling for serious comment and that the general health of the community has not been seriously affected under the abnormal conditions under which we are living. Although there might have been some disorganisation in routine work, matters which may be prejudicial to the health of the community have received adequate attention. I am also pleased to report that most of the officials of the Department have devoted their spare time to Civil Defence Duties.

I express my appreciation to all members of the Staff of the Health Department for their helpful assistance and the efficient manner in which they have carried out their duties during these difficult times.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT W. MACPHERSON, M.D., D.P.H., CH.B.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

## Section A.

### STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

#### BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND INFANTILE MORTALITY FOR THE YEAR 1939.

	Birth Rate per 1,000 population.	Death Rate per 1,000 population.	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births.
WORKINGTON .....	15.91	14.00	52.52
Area (in acres) .....			5,641
Population (R.G.'s Estimate, 1939) .....			27,220

#### *Unemployment Figures.*

The following table (for which I am indebted to the Manager of the Employment Exchange) shows the number of unemployed persons in the Borough:—

#### UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES. WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED.

1939.	Men.	Boys.	Women.	Girls.	Total.
January .....	1,123	38	137	34	1,332
February .....	1,041	36	160	29	1,266
March .....	964	39	147	26	1,176
April .....	911	28	81	12	1,032
May .....	930	24	74	14	1,042
June .....	955	16	55	6	1,032
July .....	874	18	42	9	943
August .....	773	13	46	12	844
September .....	704	21	96	34	855
October .....	834	23	134	45	1,036
November .....	851	20	131	31	1,033
December .....	870	18	126	27	1,041

#### VITAL STATISTICS.

<i>Births.</i>	Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births .....	436	219	217
Legitimate .....	424	212	212
Illegitimate .....	12	7	5

Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population = 15.91



*Still Births.*

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Still Births—Legitimate .....	15	8	7
—Illegitimate .....	—	—	—
	—		
Total ...	15		
	—		

Rate per 1,000 Total (live or still) = 33.25.

*Deaths.*

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths .....	384	193	191

The number of deaths from Influenza was 8 compared with 4 in the previous year.

## DEATHS OF RESIDENTS IN AGE GROUPS.

	Under 1 Year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and over	Total
Males	13	7	2	6	15	52	98	193
Females	10	1	2	13	18	42	105	191
Total	23	8	4	19	33	94	203	384

## CAUSES OF DEATH OVER 65 YEARS.

CAUSE OF DEATH	65-70	70-75	75-80	80-85	85-90	90 and over	Total
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	6	9	6	2	1	1	25
Heart Disease ...	13	11	21	9	2	...	56
Cancer ...	13	2	6	1	...	...	22
Bronchitis ...	3	4	6	5	1	2	21
Pneumonia ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Senility ...	1	5	10	14	10	6	46
Suicide ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2
Other Violence ...	2	...	1	2	1	...	6
Nephritis ...	1	2	1	...	...	1	5
Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diabetes ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Defined Diseases ..	2	3	10	3	...	...	18
TOTAL ...	43	37	62	36	15	10	203

Deaths over 65 was 52.86% of the total deaths for the year.

*Deaths from Puerperal Causes.*

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 (live and still births).
Puerperal Sepsis .....	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes .....	2	4.43
	—	—
Total ...	2	4.43
	—	—

*Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age.*

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births .....	52.52
Legitimate Infants per 1,000	
Legitimate Live Births	51.88
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000	
Illegitimate Live Births	83.33

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....	36
Measles (all ages) .....	1
Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .....	0

DETAILS OF THE CAUSES OF DEATHS OF  
INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total Under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
Measles ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Influenza ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions... ..	3	..	..	..	3	1	1	..	..	5
Laryngitis ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	3
Pneumonia ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	3
Diarrhœa ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis ... ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Suffocation, overlaying Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ... ..	2	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	..	3
Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth ... ..	4	..	1	..	5	..	..	..	..	5
Other Causes ... ..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>23</b>

## Section B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) *Municipal Laboratory.*

	<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Swabs .....	1	63	64
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>64</b>

(b) *Cumberland Pathological and Bacteriological Laboratory, Carlisle.*

Blood for Typhoid .....	5
Faeces for Typhoid .....	7
Blood for Wassermann Test .....	5
Sputa for Tuberculosis .....	4
Swabs for Diphtheria .....	7
Blood Film for Malaria .....	3
Urine Examinations .....	2
Vaginal Swab .....	1
	—
Total ...	34
	—

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

*Consultant Services.*

The scheme for the Consultant Services arranged with the Cumberland County Council was somewhat interfered with owing to Dr. Purdie resigning his appointment as Consulting Obstetrician to the Cumberland County Council. Towards the end of the year a successor (Dr. Milne) was appointed and this service is now working on similar lines as in the previous year.

*Midwives Act, 1936.*

The following table shows the cases attended during the year:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Midwifery Cases ...	28	22	19	20	33	23	23	22	19	17.	17	22
Nursing Visits ...	500	365	386	263	505	520	372	435	350	397	347	409
Ante-Natal Visits	264	234	184	271	303	327	239	355	240	512	419	401



Total No. of Cases .....	265
Total No. of Nursing Visits .....	4,849
Total No. of Ante-Natal Visits .....	3,749

*Medical Examination of Expectant Women.*

All uninsured expectant women are medically examined at least once during the expectant period.

	Place of Examination.				Total
	At Home	Dr's Surgery	Clinic	Infirmary	
1st Examination	84	169	98	45	396
2nd Examination	13	21	16	4	54
3rd Examination	2	1	2	...	5
4th Examination	..	...	1		1
	99	191	117	49	456

*Findings at Examinations.*

Normal Cases .....	251
Abnormal Cases .....	145
	<hr/> 396 <hr/>

*Recommended for Hospital.*

(a) On account of home conditions .....	24
(b) On account of patient's condition .....	14
Recommended to have a Doctor at confinement	8
Recommended to have Specialist's opinion .....	9
Recommended to have extra nourishment .....	—
Recommended to have Dental Treatment .....	87

*Summary of Abnormalities found during  
Ante-Natal Examination.*

Varicose Veins .....	11
Heart Conditions .....	3
Contracted Pelvis .....	34

Albuminuria and Oedema .....	42
Vaginal Discharge .....	3
Anaemia .....	9
Malpresentation .....	19
Haemorrhage .....	3
Other Conditions .....	21
	<hr/>
	145
	<hr/>

### *Dental Treatment for Expectant Women.*

The number of expectant women who were recommended to have dental treatment was 87, 38 of whom actually received treatment. The 38 women who received treatment made 53 attendances at the clinic. The treatment was as follows:—

Extractions .....	147
Fillings .....	—
Other Operations .....	3

### *Institutional Treatment for Mothers or Children.*

The Maternity Ward of the Workington Infirmary admits cases from the Borough.

The particulars of the total admissions for 1939 are as follows:—

No. of cases admitted .....	216
No. of cases delivered by:—	
(a) Midwives .....	146
(b) Doctors .....	43
(c) Caesarean Section .....	3
Average duration of stay in hospital .....	10/14days
Medical help sought by Midwives .....	37
No. of children not entirely breast-fed whilst in the Maternity Ward .....	8
No. of Maternal Deaths .....	2
No. of infants dying within 10 days of birth .....	7
No. of cases notified as Puerperal Pyrexia	6

There was an increase of 2 admissions to the Maternity Ward as compared with the previous year.

Eighty women were admitted to the Maternity Ward under the scheme of reduced charge and the contributions made were as follows :—

Admitted Free .....	10
5/- per week .....	19
7/6 „ „ .....	12
10/- „ „ .....	23
12/6 „ „ .....	—
15/- „ „ .....	14
20/- „ „ .....	1
42/- „ „ .....	1
	—
	80
	—

The following were the home visits paid by the two Health Visitors :—

A.—Visits paid to Infants under 1 year :

First Visits .....	542
Total Visits .....	2,957

B.—Visits paid to Children between

1-5 years .....	7,027
-----------------	-------

C.—Expectant Mothers :

First Visits .....	64
Total Visits .....	81

The following shows the amount of dried milk issued under the Classified Milk Scheme :—

Dried Milk.			
	(No. of Packets).	Malt Foods.	Total.
Free Issues .....	8,437	1,235	9,672
Sales .....	2,811	234	3,045
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	11,248	1,469	12,717
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

As an alternative to dried milk, liquid milk is given to mothers who cannot take dried milk. The amount of liquid milk for which vouchers were issued was 13 gallons.

*Notification of Births Act, 1907.*

There has been no delay in carrying out the provisions of the above Act and notifications have been received within the prescribed time.

No. of Births notified .....	521
No. of Still Births notified .....	15
	<hr/>
Total ...	536
	<hr/>

Births notified by :—

(a) Midwives .....	491
(b) Doctors .....	18
(c) Doctors and Midwives .....	27
	<hr/>
Total ...	536
	<hr/>

*Orthopaedic Treatment.*

The scheme for the treatment of infant cripples continues to give good results. Medical Practitioners are always ready to make use of this scheme by referring cases for treatment.

No. of cases on register 1st January, 1939...	21
No. of cases removed from register :—	
(a) Deformity corrected .....	1
(b) Transferred to School List .....	9
(c) Fatal .....	—
	<hr/>
	10
	<hr/>
No. of new cases ascertained .....	16
No. of cases on register 31st December, 1939	27

Of the 21 cases on the register the causes of crippling conditions were due to :—



Infantile Paralysis .....	—
Birth Palsy .....	3
Rickets .....	6
Congenital Defects .....	12
Arthritis .....	2
Talipes .....	3
Osteomyelitis .....	1
	—
	27
	—

---

## Section C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### *Water.*

There are two water supplies for the Borough:—

(a) Crummock.

(b) Owsen Fell (Harrington and Distington Joint Water Committee).

These two supplies have been described in previous reports and the quality of the water is controlled by Chemical and Bacteriological examinations.

#### *Crummock Water.*

The following is the result of the Chemical and Bacteriological Analysis:—

#### ANALYSIS OF SAMPLE OF WATER FROM TAP AT No. 13, BANKLANDS, WORKINGTON.

18th Oct. 1939.

Agar Plate	0.1 c.c.	1 c.c.	10 c.c.
Count.	colonies.	colonies.	colonies.
At 22°C. ....	2	18	203
At 37°C. ....	Nil	3	41

*Coli-aerogenes* count.—Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 c.c. of original water is:—1 and faecal in origin, i.e., Methyl Red, positive, Voges Proskauer, negative.

Appearance in a 2ft. tube—Somewhat turbid.

	Parts per
pH — 7.2.	100,000
Free and saline ammonia .....	0.0000
Albuminoid ammonia .....	0.0036
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in	
15 mins. at 27°C. ...	0.024
do.                   4 hours at 27°C. ...	0.050
Total solids .....	3.3
Suspended matter .....	0.0
Hardness—total .....	1.0
—permanent .....	1.0
—temporary .....	0.0
Chlorine present as chloride .....	0.62
Heavy metals .....	0.00

This is a very soft water showing little evidence of organic contamination and is suitable for domestic uses.

LESLIE H. EASSON, Chemist.

Cumberland Pathological Laboratory.

#### *Owsen Fell Supply.*

This supply serves the Harrington district of the Borough. The following is the result of the Chemical and Bacteriological examinations:—

#### ANALYSIS OF SAMPLE OF WATER FROM TAP AT HOUSE ON MAIN ROAD, HIGH HARRINGTON.

Agar Plate	0.1 c.c.	1 c.c.	10 c.c.
Count.	colonies.	colonies.	colonies.
At 22°C. ....	3	26	273
At 37°C. ....	Nil	5	67

*Coli-aerogenes* count.—Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 c.c. of original water is:—5 and faecal in origin, i.e., Methyl Red, positive, Voges Proskauer, negative.

Appearance in a 2ft. tube—Clear and colourless.

	Parts per
pH — 6.3.	100,000
Free and saline ammonia .....	0.0000
Albuminoid ammonia .....	0.0020
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in	
15 mins. at 27°C. ...	0.008
do.                   4 hours at 27°C. ...	0.012
Total solids .....	4.3
Suspended matter .....	0.0
Hardness—total .....	0.9
—permanent .....	0.8
—temporary .....	0.1
Chlorine present as chloride .....	0.87
Heavy metals (lead) .....	0.007

This is a very soft water, the bacterial content of which is perhaps greater than is desirable, but hardly sufficiently so to condemn it in view of the good chemical analysis for organic matter. The water is acid and apparently plumbo-solvent. The presence of lead in the sample is very undesirable indeed.

LESLIE H. EASSON, Chemist.

Cumberland Pathological Laboratory.

With reference to the plumbo-solvency of this supply, the question has been considered by the Harrington and Distington Joint Water Committee, “and it is proposed to instal a Floating Orifice Chemical Apparatus capable of treating the water with the requisite quantity of ‘Soda Ash’ and ‘Chloros’, in order to raise the pH value and sterilise the water. Tenders for this work have been

considered by the Committee, and after one or two technical details have been settled, together with the sanction of the Ministry, it is hoped that the work will be put in hand shortly."

### *Public Cleansing.*

There has been no change in the arrangements for public cleansing during the year. The existing practice of "putting out" house refuse in pails, boxes, etc., is most unsatisfactory.

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## Section D.

### 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts .....	576
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1552
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .....	71
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	294
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	8
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation .....	568

### 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or other officers .....	490
---	-----



## 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936 :
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 71
  - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :
    - (a) By Owners ..... 70
    - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 1
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..... 7
  - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :
    - (a) By Owners ..... 7
    - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..... 1
  - (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..... Nil
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..... 1
  - (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..... Nil
4. HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV.—OVERCROWDING :
- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ..... 84

(2)	Number of families dwelling therein .....	91
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein .....	592
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding during the year .....	5
(c) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	13
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	81
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling- houses have become overcrowded again after Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .....	Nil

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## Section E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### *Milk Supply.*

There were at the end of the year within the Borough 56 purveyors on the register, and also 24 producers of milk.

Generally speaking Producers and Retailers have carried out the Regulations in a satisfactory manner. Minor contraventions have been speedily rectified. Dairies and farms have been frequently inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors and every effort has been made to ensure a pure milk supply for the Borough. The adverse results of milk examinations have been very disturbing in view of the considerable time that has been spent on this subject and although our efforts will be maintained, I cannot but foresee further setbacks on account of the possible labour shortage due to the war.

#### *Bacteriological Examination of Milk.*

During the year 137 samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination and the following are the results :—

## MILK PRODUCED IN THE BOROUGH.

Number of samples taken .....	58
Satisfactory .....	27 or 46.6%
Unsatisfactory .....	31 or 53.4%

## MILK PRODUCED OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH.

Number of samples taken .....	79
Satisfactory .....	30 or 38.0%
Unsatisfactory .....	49 or 62.0%

The following table shows the number of samples which have been clean, unclean and T.B. positive during the last 5 years :—

Year	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	T.B. Positive	Percentage Satisfactory
1935	62	39	4	61.0
1936	80	25		78.1
1937	81	89	5	47.6
1938	43	70	1	38.0
1939	57	80	6	41.6

Samples of milk found to contain tubercle bacilli are reported immediately to the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries who causes an inspection to be made of the cattle at the farm concerned so that the animal or animals suspected can be isolated and slaughtered.

*Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923 and 1936.*

There is one Producer of Tuberculin Tested Milk and four Producers of Accredited Milk within the Borough.

Two Purveyors of milk retail Accredited Milk, one Tuberculin Tested Milk and two Pasteurised Milk.

During the year 12 samples of milk were procured under the above Order and submitted for examination. All were found satisfactory.

# SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

1939. MONTH.	METHYLENE BLUE TEST.												BACILLUS COLI				T. B.		
	Time taken to reduce colour in hours.												Colour not reduced	Presence in 3 Tubes				Pos.	Neg
	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½		1	2	3	Ab-sent			
JANUARY ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
FEBRUARY ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	9	
MARCH ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	1	12	1	—	1	1	1	1	12	
APRIL ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	6	1	1	1	7	—	—	9	
MAY ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	2	3	—	—	4	
JUNE ...	—	2	6	5	—	1	3	4	—	—	3	5	1	14	4	—	—	11	
JULY ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	
AUGUST ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
SEPTEMBER .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
OCTOBER ..	—	1	1	—	1	3	2	2	—	—	20	3	1	16	11	5	22	22	
NOVEMBER ...	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	4	1	3	15	2	4	10	11	—	—	16	
DECEMBER ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	3	1	—	—	2	



*Meat.*

Shops, stalls and vehicles where meat is exposed for sale have been frequently inspected and the Meat Regulations have been well complied with.

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## Section F.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The points of interest with regard to notifiable and non-notifiable diseases during the year were:—

Small number of cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

No deaths from Diphtheria.

One case of Typhoid Fever.

No cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

Epidemic of Measles and Whooping Cough.

*Diphtheria.*

Cases of diphtheria gave very little trouble during the year. There were only three notifications of this disease. All were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and recovered after a period of treatment.

A further number of children resident in the Borough were immunised before going to the Holiday Camp at Drigg.

The number immunised this year was 169.

*Scarlet Fever.*

The number of notifications of cases of scarlet fever was 19, being 6 less than in the previous year. All the cases received treatment in the Infectious Diseases Hospital and there were no deaths from this disease.

*Typhoid Fever.*

One case of typhoid fever was notified and the diagnosis was confirmed by a blood test which was positive to *B. Typhosus*.

The case was a boy of 8 years of age. The illness ran a normal course and the patient was discharged after three weeks' stay in hospital.

One rather interesting point came to light as the result of the enquiries which were made into the probable origin of infection. It was revealed that a next-door neighbour, a Mrs. R., aged 66 years, had suffered from typhoid fever 2 years ago while living at another address. On my advice a specimen of faeces from Mrs. R. was examined and *B. Typhosus* was isolated from the specimen. This showed definitely that Mrs. R. after 2 years was a carrier, and the close proximity of this person was regarded as a suspicious cause of infection. The Health Department has made a careful record of this carrier.

*Erysipelas.*

There were fourteen cases of erysipelas notified and there were no deaths.

*Puerperal Pyrexia.*

There were six notifications of puerperal pyrexia. All the cases were nursed at home.

*Measles and Whooping Cough.*

Towards the end of the year both these diseases assumed epidemic form. During November and December there were 550 notifications of Measles and 71 of Whooping Cough.

*Cerebro-Spinal Fever.* No case occurred.

*Ophthalmia Neonatorum.*

One case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified which responded to treatment and the condition was cured.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS AND WARDS during the year.

DISEASE.	AGE PERIODS										WARDS.						Total Cases Notified.	Removed to Hospital	Deaths.			
	Under 1 year	1 — 2	2 — 3	3 — 4	4 — 5	5 — 10	10 — 15	15 — 20	20 — 35	35 — 45	45 — 65	65 and over.	St. John's North	St. John's South	St. Michael's West	St. Michael's East				Seaton Ward	South Ward	Harrington Ward
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria	—	—	1	1	2	12	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	7	2	—	1	—	3	—	3	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	19		
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	1	1		
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6		
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	14	4	5	—	1	2	3	—	3	4	12	3		
Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28		
Tuberculosis	—	1	—	4	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	3	3	1	1	3		
Non-pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Tuberculosis	4	5	3	6	9	29	4	—	2	—	—	—	2	3	26	9	3	16	3	62		
Chickenpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	3	2	3	1	3	3	2	1	3	1	14		
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Ophthalmia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1		
Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Pneumonia	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	3	3	3	2	—	5	2	3	2	2	1	15		
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Measles	15	50	54	56	106	235	28	—	5	1	—	—	58	103	134	69	55	79	52	550		
Whooping Cough	3	7	10	10	13	27	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	2	3	1	27	26	71		

TABLE SHOWING CASES, PATIENT DAYS AND DURATION  
OF STAY IN HOSPITAL.

Disease	Cases from Work-ington	Cases ad-mitted from out-side dist's (including Evacuees)	Total	Patient days in Hospital all cases	Average duration of Stay
Scarlet Fever	20	18	38	1318	34.7
Diphtheria	3	4	7	263	37.6
Typhoid Fever	1	3	4	133	33.2
Cerebro Spinal Observat'n	—	1	1	14	14.0
Para Typhoid	—	1	1	51	51.0
Scabies	—	2	2	18	9.0
Measles	—	2	2	30	15.0
Malaria	—	3	3	35	11.6
Total	24	34	58	1862	32.1

#### CANCER.

The following table shows the number of deaths from cancer according to age and sex distribution:—

<i>Age Group.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
20—30 years.	—	—	—
30—40 „	1	—	1
40—50 „	—	1	1
50—60 „	—	4	4
60—70 „	15	5	18
70—80 „	2	7	9
80—90 „	1	—	1
	—	—	—
	19	17	36
	—	—	—

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

There was no necessity to take action in regard to persons suffering from Tuberculosis in the milk trade or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.



*Tuberculosis.*

Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis were four more than in the previous year.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...	3	2	...	...	2	1
5—10	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...
15—20	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...
20—25	2	5	1	...	1	4	...	...
25—35	2	5	...	...	1	2	1	...
35—45	2	2	...	...	2	1	...	...
45—55	4	...	1	...	3	1	1	...
55—65	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
65 & over.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	14	14	8	2	8	11	4	1

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN THE  
VARIOUS WARDS.

	St. John's North	St. John's South	St. Michael's West	St. Michael's East	South Ward	Seaton Ward	Harrington Ward	TOTAL
All Causes								
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	4	4	1	5	3	2	19
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	5

The following table shows the number of Tuberculosis cases on the Register on December 31st, 1939 :—

PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.			Total Cases on Register.
Males.	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
57	64	121	36	34	70	191

The total number of cases on the Register is three more than in the previous year.

#### SANATORIUM TREATMENT.

	In Insti- tutions 1st. Jan. 1939.	Admit- ted.	Dis- charged	Died.	In Insti- tutions 31st Dec. 1939.
<b>Pulmonary Cases --</b>					
Adult Males ...	6	5	10	...	1
Adult Females	3	12	9	...	6
Children ..	1	2	1	1	1
<b>Non-Pulmonary Cases</b>					
Adult Males ..	...	...	...	..	...
Adult Females ...	...	2	2	...	...
Children ..	...	...	...	...	...
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	10	21	22	1	8

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

## 1.—INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH, INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power ..	179	15	...
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power ..	206	17	...
<b>Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises ...)	4	...	...
<b>Total</b> ...	389	32	...

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ..	15	15	...	...
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	1	1	...	...
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ..	1	1	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) ...	1	1	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	...	...	...	...
Sanitary conveniences (S. 7) :—				
insufficient ... ..	3	3	...	...
unsuitable or defective ...	10	10	...	...
not separate for sexes ...	1	1	...	...
Other offences ... ..	2	2	...	...
Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937).				
<b>Total</b> ... ..	34	34	...	...

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1939.

*To R. W. Macpherson, Esq., M.D., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.*

Sir,

I herewith submit the following statement showing the number and nature of inspections, etc., during the year 1939, also the number of notices served and the various items dealt with:—

General Inspections	...	...	...	...	3,371
Inquiries re Infectious Diseases, Disinfection of					
Premises, etc.	...	...	...	...	50
Testing Drains	...	...	...	...	288
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	19
Social Clubs	...	...	...	...	32
Schools	...	...	...	...	12
Factories	...	...	...	...	273
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	116
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	211
Stables	...	...	...	...	13
Rat Infested Premises	...	...	...	...	24
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	88
Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	41
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	51
Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	...	...	97
Shops Visited re Shops Act	...	...	...	...	235
Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	...	128
Shops Visited re Meat and Other Foods	...	...	...	...	361
Markets, Stalls, Carts	...	...	...	...	126
Ice Cream Shops and Carts	...	...	...	...	46
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	...	315
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	1,139
Caravans	...	...	...	...	35
Housing Inspections	...	...	...	...	506
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	116
A.R.P.	...	...	...	...	50



Interviews with Owners, Tradesmen, etc.	...	423
Revisits	... ..	2,395
Samples of Milk taken for Bacteriological Examination	... ..	136
Samples of Graded Milk taken for Bacteriological Examination	... ..	12

## NOTICES SERVED.

Informal Notices	... ..	568
Statutory Notices	... ..	70

At the end of the year 52 Informal Notices and Statutory Notices remained to be dealt with.

The attention of the Borough Surveyor has been called to the following defects:—

Choked Gullies or Sewers	... ..	19
Apparently dangerous Structures	... ..	3
Waste or Poor Pressure of Water	... ..	18
Defective Stop Taps and Covers	... ..	6

## SUMMARY OF WORKS EXECUTED.

## DRAINAGE, ETC.:—

Drains relaid	... ..	44
Cleansed or repaired	... ..	34
New gullies fixed	... ..	61
Soil-vent pipes renewed	... ..	3
Cleared by vacuum pump free of cost to owner		71
New sinks fixed	... ..	53
Waste pipes renewed or repaired	... ..	17

## WATER CLOSETS:—

Repaired or cleansed	... ..	47
Cisterns repaired or renewed	... ..	59
Service pipes repaired	... ..	17
New basins fixed	... ..	60
New traps fixed	... ..	11
Insufficient ventilation	... ..	1
Wallplaster	... ..	12
Flush pipes renewed	... ..	13
Leaking joints repaired	... ..	36

Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	14
Seats repaired or renewed	...	...	...	22
Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	28
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	5
Cleansed or limewashed	...	...	...	15
Additional accommodation provided	...	...	...	16

## HOUSES :—

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	149
Chimney repaired	...	...	...	...	32
Spouts cleansed or renewed	...	...	...	...	91
Window frames repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	136
Sashcords renewed	...	...	...	...	59
Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	33
Exterior walls repaired or repointed	...	...	...	...	40
Interior walls remedied of dampness	...	...	...	...	280
Wallplaster remedied	...	...	...	...	32
Proper ventilated food stores provided	...	...	...	...	42
Coal stores provided	...	...	...	...	12
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Kitchen ranges repaired	...	...	...	...	28
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	12
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	34
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	41
Setpots repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	15
Cleansed or redecorated	...	...	...	...	76
Additional lighting and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	13
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	120
Yard surfaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	39
Yards cleansed	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	7
Nuisance from Animals	...	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	24

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

During the year 389 visits were made to factories (including bakehouses), and 32 notices were served regarding defects, alterations, etc.

H.M. Inspector of Factories directed attention to one matter remediable under the Public Health Acts. This matter received attention and the Inspector was subsequently acquainted of the action taken.

#### SHOPS ACT, 1934.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

During the year 235 visits under the Shops Act were paid regarding the provisions of the Act relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences, and generally the premises were found satisfactory.

The Food and Drugs Act, 1938, came into operation on the 1st October, 1939, and consolidated various Acts relating to Milk and Dairies, Slaughterhouses, etc. One hundred and twenty-eight visits were made, and a number of Food Preparing places which did not conform to the provisions of the Act were altered prior to Registration being granted.

#### DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The number of Milk Producers in the Borough is 24 and the number of Purveyors on the Register is 52.

During the year 196 visits were paid to Dairies, and 119 visits to Farms, the latter usually being visited at milking times.

#### INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

During the year 966 day visits and 173 evening visits were paid to the two slaughterhouses within the Borough, and the meat of all animals killed was examined prior to removal for sale.

The number of licensed slaughtermen is 38, and all animals are stunned by "Cash" Captive Bolt Pistols.

The following animals were slaughtered during the year:—

Bulls .....	42
Bullocks .....	541

Cows .....	177
Heifers .....	1,027
Calves .....	126
Sheep and Lambs .....	9,365
Pigs .....	3,337
Goats .....	1

Total ... 14,615

Upon examination the number of animals found affected with various diseases or conditions were:—

Disease or Condition	Whole Carcases							Part Carcases or Organs						
	Bulls	Bullocks	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Pigs	Sheep & Lambs	Bulls	Bullocks	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Pigs	Sheep & Lambs
Tuberculosis	...	...	1	3	...	8	...	2	14	27	38	...	103	...
Septic Pericarditis	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fevered	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Umbilical Pyaema	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Immaturity	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Moribund	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oedema	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Emaciation	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bruising	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	16	1
Congestion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...
Flukes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	10	...	2	2
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Absesses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	10	...	1	...
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	15	3	46	...	7	1
Cysts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	2
Inflammation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	1	...
Anthraxis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cavernous Angioma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
Actinomycosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Mastitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	1	4	7	13	8	6	35	38	110	...	153	6



	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Percentage of animals inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.54	15.82	—	—	3.33
Percentage of animals inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.09	6.27	5.56	0.15	0.65

In addition the following foodstuffs were found unfit for human consumption :—

Fish .....	32 $\frac{1}{4}$ stones.
Roast Pig Heads .....	27 pounds.
Prawns .....	30 pounds.
Yeast .....	28 pounds.
Boiled Ham .....	15 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds.
Corned Beef .....	42 pounds.

#### VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Owing to the presence of vermin (bugs, fleas, etc.), 38 houses were disinfested by this Department. The methods employed are by spraying with an efficient insecticide, “Pyagra” or “Zaldicide”, or by fumigation with “Cimex” or “Fumoids” (Sulphur Dioxide base). Architraves, picture mouldings, skirtings, etc., are loosened or removed, wallpaper stripped, fireplaces, windows, etc., sealed. Following disinfestation, tenants are instructed to wash bedding, scrub floors, etc., bedsteads to be taken to pieces and scrubbed with boiling water and paraffin. Repapering of walls is discouraged, and the houses as far as possible are made bug proof—wooden picture rails abolished, skirting boardings replaced with cement, and woodwork reduced to a minimum.

The number of council houses found infested with bugs was 3, other houses 34, and all were disinfested.

(Signed) RICHARD JAMES,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*





